

**MINUTES OF SPECIAL MEETING OF THE
AMITE RIVER BASIN DRAINAGE & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT**

3535 S. Sherwood Forest Boulevard, Suite 135, Baton Rouge, LA

October 18, 2016

MEMBERS PRESENT DURING ROLL CALL: Ben Babin, Jerry Thibeau, David Hoover, Lionel Bailey, Burrell Carter, Willie George Lee, James "Jimmy" Little, Terry Louque, Anthony "Tony" Rouchon, Larry Thomas, Don Thompson, Kenneth "Wade" Welborn

MEMBERS ABSENT: Tamiara Wade

MEMBER ARRIVED AT 6:10: Lionel Bailey

ALSO PRESENT: ARBC Executive Director Dietmar Rietschier, ARBC Executive Secretary Toni Guitrau, ARBC Legal Counsel Larry Bankston

1. The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Babin.
2. Prayer/Pledge of Allegiance
3. Public Comments on Agenda Items: Michael Haynes property owner located northwest of the future CRDC Diversion structure, said guide levees as proposed by the USACE for that structure may trap water. Rietschier will write a letter to the Corps for answers.
4. Minutes
The Board unanimously approved a motion by Thompson, second by Thibeau to approve the September 2016 regular meeting minutes as presented.
5. Financial Statement Report: Bailey entered the meeting at 6:10 p.m.
Hoover presented to the Board the September 2016 General Fund and CRDC Fund financial statements. The Board unanimously approved a motion by Rouchon, second by Thompson to approve the September 2016 General Fund and CRDC Fund financial statements.
6. Report by Executive Director
 - Status of Comite River Diversion Canal - Real Estate: Rietschier reported that 2 large tracts, environmental and surveys need to be done. Rietschier explained that when speaking of utility relocations, it means lowering them 60 feet, not in the traditional way of moving them sideways. This needs to be done prior to the construction of the bridges.
 - October 5, 2016 Workshop at LSU Improving Amite River Basin Flood Forecasting and Hazard Analysis. Over 80 people were in attendance.
 - Watermarks: Rietschier said that the ARBC in coordination with the US Geological Survey (who is surveying HWMs on behalf of FEMA) and the US Corps of Engineers (who is collecting some HWM data) to ensure comprehensive surveying of HWMs throughout the Amite River Basin, has completed the high water mark surveys. Bob Jacobsen provided a brief report, The Flood Risk Game. This data will be used in a basin wide Floodplain Management Plan. Rietschier discussed the importance of river gages.
 - The Board unanimously approved a motion by Rouchon, second by Hoover to ratify the agreements with T. Baker Smith LLC from \$20,000 to \$2451.50.
 - DOTD Report: DOTD is continuing to work with utilities along Hwy. 61 so that when funding comes to start the bridges they will be able to start the relocations.
7. ARBC Legal Counsel: Discussed the status of funding and the Capital Outlay Bill. DOTD has informed ARBC that as far as additional "cash on hand" once they proceed with the next couple of purchases, they will be out of money. There is a process that the Bond Commission can reallocate some of the categories of the money we have that can result in a line of credit that DOTD section of the Capital Outlay Bill. ARBC sent a letter to the DOTD Secretary with copies to the legislators informing them that the DOTD will be without additional funds to proceed to pay their portion of utility relocations etc. That is a request the DOTD Secretary has to make of the governor and DOA. Bankston brought to the attention of the Board, the current article in the Advocate about the cost-ratio and history of the CRDC Project. Discussed the status of Congressional action needed for federal funding of the CRDC Project. Bankston thanked DOTD for assisting ARBC with creating a Permit System. The Board unanimously approved a motion by Thompson second by Hoover to add to the agenda "Permit System."
8. Old Business: None
9. New Business:
 - Resolution 1127 – Parcel 46-Purchase of declared immovable property: deferred action.
 - Resolution 1128 – The Board unanimously approved a motion by Hoover second by Thompson to authorize ARBC President and/or Executive Director to execute permits as necessary for utility relocations on land owned by ARBC.
 - Resolution 1129 – The Board unanimously approved a motion by Rouchon second by Hoover to purchase for \$201,982 Parcels 1, 2 & 3 of Tract ADV-18.
 - The Board unanimously approved a motion by Rouchon second by Lee to approve the Permit Form.

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- Judge Carter said that it is an honor to be appointed as an ARBC Commissioner. He believes the Commission has done a great job and looks forward to learning, helping and working with the Commission.

10. The Board unanimously approved a motion by Rouchon, second by Thompson to adjourn the meeting.

APPROVED:

/s/ Ben Babin

Ben Babin, ARBC President

Date: November 15, 2016

/s/ Toni B. Guitrau

Toni B. Guitrau, Executive Secretary